

C1
biocompatible sealing material, wherein said sealing material does not contain a pre-formed lumen, wherein said sealing material forms a seal around the surgical components as the components are inserted through said sealing material and removed from said introducer sheath device during the surgical procedure.

C2
97. (Amended) The introducer sheath device according to Claim 96, wherein said at least one filling passageway extends along said passageway that accommodates the passage of the surgical components.

-- 98. (New) The introducer sheath device according to Claim 82, wherein said housing comprises an outer surface and an inner surface.--

-- 99. (New) The introducer sheath device according to Claim 98, wherein said outer surface comprises silicon.--

C3
-- 100. (New) The introducer sheath device according to Claim 98, wherein said inner surface comprises a synthetic fluorine-containing resin or a polymer.--

SUB 32
-- 101. (New) The introducer sheath device according to Claim 82, wherein said biocompatible sealing material is a self-sealing gel-like material.--

-- 102. (New) The introducer sheath device according to Claim 82, wherein said sealing cavity comprises an expanded housing assembly.--

-- 103. (New) The introducer sheath device according to Claim 87, wherein said fluid is saline.--